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gether fairly account, perhaps, for the one general criticism which the reviewer has to submit; while a thoroughly creditable volume, it does not realize the advance expectations which the work alike of the editor of the series and of the author of the volume fairly justify the historically-minded public in entertaining. That this judgment will be acquiesced in by the author may be inferred from his statements in the preface; it is stated here merely for the benefit of those who have not seen or examined the volume.

The three hundred sixty-two pages of the book comprise eleven chapters, besides an appendix, index, and bibliography. The first six chapters are primarily descriptive; the remaining ones are narrative in character. Chapter I, "The Indians and the Fur Trade," contains a useful account of these subjects which played so important a rôle in the Illinois of 1818. Here, as usually throughout the volume, the dominant note is economic, in marked contrast to the line of interest displayed by such writers as the late Dr. Thwaites. As compared with the latter's characteristic work the present narrative may be equally useful but it is certainly far less inspiring to the reader.

Chapter II deals with "The Public Lands"; chapter III with "Extent of Settlement" in 1818. Useful maps compiled by the author occur in connection with each. Chapters on the pioneers and on economic, social, and political conditions follow in due order. The latter chapter furnishes the transition from the descriptive to the narrative portion of the book. The latter chiefly recounts the political conditions and developments centering around the transformation of the territory of Illinois into a sovereign state of the Union.

No effort has been made to check or correct the author in matters of opinion; a few errors of precise detail have been noted, but since a second edition of the book is improbable, no attempt has been made to list them. The bibliography presented is uncritical and it does not assume to be exhaustive. The style of footnote reference accords well with the general conception of the volume as intended to be scholarly in character yet designed primarily for popular reading. The index seems to be well constructed and reasonably exhaustive.

M. M. QUAlFE

The Frontier State, 1818-1848. By Theodore Calvin Pease. [Centennial History of Illinois, Vol. II.] (Springfield: Illinois Centennial Commission, 1918. 457 p.)

The second volume of the Centennial History of Illinois series is in more than one respect a notable book. Appearing out of order before the first volume has been published, it reveals the scope and

plan of a coöperative enterprise so well conceived and thus far so well executed as to indicate that the study of western history has passed well beyond the backwoodsman stage. Following the pioneer who first blazed a trail through the trackless maze of unassorted source-material for the history of the West, there are now groups of trained historians sharing a common viewpoint, conforming to the same high standards of scholarly technique, working together in close personal touch with each other in a spirit of cordial and sympathetic coöperation. Such is the group of historians who have undertaken the task of relating the events of a century in the state of Illinois.

The plan of the series is distinctly coöperative, an individual author being in the main responsible for each of the five volumes. The preface to the second volume, written "somewhere in France," reveals the extent of the author's indebtedness to the general editor, to members of the Centennial Commission, and to an assistant competent to supply two entire chapters without marring the unity of the whole. The result is a book which might very properly be entitled *A Full-Length Portrait of a Frontier State*.

In the drawing of the outlines the perspective remains admirable throughout. Although some tediousness of detail in recounting factional controversies of local politics or the bizarre experiments of frontier finance could not always be avoided, the author nowhere loses his perception of the vital relation between state politics and the larger aspects of national affairs. Not only for an appreciation of frontier problems and conditions but for a sympathetic understanding of the Jacksonian period as well, it may be doubted whether the history of any state, unless perhaps that of its western neighbor, Missouri, would prove so instructive as the history of Illinois. Situated at the crossroads between the East and the West, between the North and the South, and having within its own boundaries both a north and a south, the state was of necessity deeply affected by national policies of finance and tariff, the counter-currents of the slavery issue, and of those social, racial, and religious forces that have at times exerted so decisive an influence upon local and national development. Each of these topics is discussed in order, the arrangement of the chapters being logical and consistent without arbitrarily separating movements which could only be adequately presented in relation to each other. Thus portrayed, the history of an individual state, while still retaining its distinctive local character, sheds new light upon many phases of national progress which have not as yet been fully apprehended.

Throughout the book and especially in the admirable first chapter the author manifests that true appreciation of frontier complexi-

ties which can be attained only through the laborious process of absorbing and digesting enormous masses of intricate and minute detail. The one serious defect in the make-up of the book is the lack of a satisfactory map showing roads, trails, rivers, and towns upon which the reader might trace schemes of internal improvements in which the state was interested. An unfortunate misprint on the population map of 1840 reverses the legend, making the map read as if the most densely settled area were that having the lowest percentage of population. A welcome addition in forthcoming volumes would be an appendix showing the representation of the state in Congress and the term of office of its governors.

MARTHA L. EDWARDS

The Era of the Civil War, 1848-1870. By Arthur Charles Cole.
[Centennial History of Illinois, Vol. III.] (Springfield:
Illinois Centennial Commission, 1919. 499 p.)

Although the author announces in the preface to this volume that his theme is the transition of Illinois from a frontier community to a modern commonwealth, none the less his method of treatment throws into high relief the four years of the Civil War and makes that event the pivot of his period. Both politically and industrially he discusses Illinois before and after the war, in separate chapters placed at some distance apart. For example, the agricultural conditions before the war are considered in chapter three, "Prairie Farming and Banking"; while chapter seventeen discusses "Agriculture and the War." The railroad problems of the fifties are divorced from those of the sixties. "Church and School 1850-1860" occupies chapter ten; "Religion, Morality, and Education, 1860-1870," chapter twenty, near the end of the volume. By this method of treatment continuity is lost and the process of the transition from a frontier to a modern state somewhat obscured. This choice of method is in some measure justified by the immense importance of the Civil War in the history of the Prairie State. The war did actually bisect the epoch Mr. Cole describes; it did condition not only political but economic progress to such a degree as to merit the "before" and "after" method of treatment. More, perhaps, than that of the neighboring states was the history of Illinois involved in the course of the Civil War. It was the election of "the man from Illinois" that precipitated the war; it was the generalship of the military leader from Illinois that ended its fighting. The fortunes of the state were irretrievably bound up in its prosecution.

Illinois was also during the period treated in this volume in its divided opinions and sectional antagonisms an epitome of the nation. Southern Illinois was practically a border state, and the "democracy